



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

OCTOBER MEETING: INTRODUCTION TO APRS

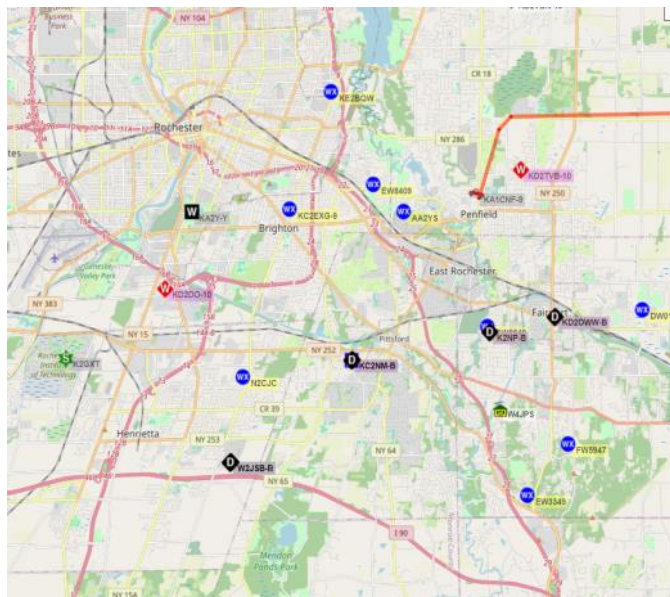
TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

APRS stands for Automatic Packet Reporting System and is a method of broadcasting real-time data via amateur radio. It's most common use is to broadcast GPS data indicating location during mobile activities, but it can be used for any electronic data such as weather, telemetry, etc. It's a mature technology, originally developed in the 1980s, but is still in use and several of our newer hams have expressed interest in knowing more about it. This month's presentation will be an introduction, or re-introduction for some, into the techniques of APRS.

Our speaker is Don Kiser AC2EV, a life member of RARA and the mainstay of our VE service that provides free testing required by the FCC to get a ham radio license. Don has presented several times to RARA before and is always an interesting speaker so please come along to our October meeting and find out all about APRS!

Please join us on October 2nd 2024, 7:00PM at the Boy Scouts Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town-line Road, Rochester, New York 14623 or online by registering at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4338848147522528601>



OCTOBER, 2024
VOLUME 79, ISSUE 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MONTHLY PROGRAM	1
BOARDZ BUZZ	2
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
THE 2024 RARA BANQUET	3
MEMBERSHIP	5
RARA MERCHANDISE	5
EDUCATION	6
ELMERS' CORNER	6
MORSE CODE TRAINING	7
ELMERS	7, 8
RAFFLE PRIZES	8
SEPTEMBER MEETING REVIEW	9
PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT	10
ANNUAL AUCTION IN NOVEMBER	11
BSA CAMP CUTLER ANTENNA	
INSTALLATION	12
PUMPKIN PATROL OCTOBER 30/31	13
AMATEUR RADIO ASTRONOMY SPECIAL	
INTEREST GROUP	13
FLDIGI AND THE NARROW BAND EMERGENCY MESSAGING SYSTEM	14
CALENDAR	15
VE TEAM	16
NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS	17
AMATEUR'S CODE	19
RAGS OF THE PAST	20
RARA OFFICERS	23
AREA CLUB CONTACTS	24

RARA



BOARDZ BUZZ

RICH BISHOPP, KD2UBJ, PRESIDENT

Now that the "Gavel" has been passed here is my first rag article as president of RARA.

Thank You all for allowing me to serve the club in this way. I want to thank Scott Thies for doing such a great job as President the past two years as well as the Board of Directors. I now know why Scott would say things about finding time. A full time job, family and President of such an active and popular club can be demanding.

I am fortunate to have an outstanding Board of Directors standing along side me. We have retained our Directors from last year and added two new Directors to our roster (Steve Blowers, K2PXT and George Adams, K4GWA) and I can already see they bring much to the table. RARA needs to have new people get involved and keep the energy high and fresh ideas flowing.

A few things you will be seeing from the Board of Directors in the coming months is a review of the grant and scholarship programs. The members have spoken and the Board understands these have been under utilized for the past few years. The veteran Board members will help us newer Board members understand past practices and together map a plan for the future of the scholarships and grants for education and public service. The most recent grant awarded was just this past summer to put up antennas for the scouts to use at Camp Cutler in Naples. These antennas will be up on a permanent basis to allow licensed operators to get the scouts on the air and experience amateur radio almost anytime they are at camp. Hopefully we will meet our goal to get the HF antennas up in time for the Camporee and Jamboree on The Air this October.

You have seen requests and pleas over and over for someone to help facilitate RARA Academy events and Steve Blowers has stepped up to the challenge and has hit the ground running. You have already seen announcements about an Academy session coming up in October and there are more on the horizon. Steve is already looking at the events for next year. I am excited to see what is coming and anxious to learn more about the hobby myself.

The RARA Hamfest committee is working to secure a venue for the Hamfest in 2025. I was just as disappointed as everyone else about the cancellation of the 2024 Hamfest. The problem last year was the venue that had been used and planned to be used again set unrealistic demands and restrictions for the club. They did this late in the process which made things even more difficult for the committee. Finding another site which sounds simple was impossible with the short time frame and site requirements we need. I hope to see an announcement from the Hamfest committee very soon with dates and a location. It all sounds simple and I thought it was but it takes time and patience to get it right.

I want to thank everyone again for putting your trust in me and the Board of Directors this year to help run our club and keep it awesome. Please, I would like

feedback from all of you at any time. If I am not doing something I should be doing, tell me. If I am doing something I shouldn't be, tell me.

Each member of the Board is a very active member of the club but sometimes we may not see a little detail that could or has grown into a problem. Let us know if there is some thing we need to address. The Board and Officers handle the administrative stuff but it is up to all of us members to keep it the club active and popular. Everyone should look for ways they can help the club grow and get even stronger than it already is. You may have something special and unique to share so please do. Maybe you are interested in helping with an existing activity? Let us know where you would like to help.

Thanks you again and I'll see you at the next meeting.

Rich

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY OCT 2, 2024 - RARA Meeting In Person and On-Line

7:00 PM - register at this link to attend on line

[https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4338848147522528601)

[register/4338848147522528601](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4338848147522528601)

THURSDAY OCT 3, 2024 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 PM - Online

Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

SATURDAY OCT 26, 2024 - JOTA / HAM Radio Demonstration

Camp Cutler, Naples, NY

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY OCT 30 / 31, 2024 - Pumpkin Patrol

Overpasses of the New York State Thruway

THE 2024 RARA BANQUET

IT'S A WRAP

SUSAN AIELLO, TIM BARRETT, SUZANNE BISHOPP, MIKE MOORE

RARA Members, family and friends gathered at Perlo's Restaurant in East Rochester on Friday, September 20th, to celebrate our club, recognize outstanding member contributions, and have fun! Perlo's was a terrific location, with a record 55 RARA members and guests in attendance!

The Italian meal was delicious, and the event was a great opportunity for everyone to socialize and celebrate the club and members. The event was livened up with a raffle, a fun game with prizes and a RARA themed memento for each attendee to take home. A gorgeous gift basket (wine and fancy snacks), DX Engineering Tool Bag, Drone and a Dunkin' gift card were given away to the lucky winners.

Three RARA Members were honored this year for their contributions to the club.

Ed Wilkonski, K1EM was recognized as **Public Service Member of the Year** for leading the Pumpkin Patrol Program. Ed coordinates the monitoring of 16 (!) area bridges by RARA Volunteers over the NYS Thruway for two evenings during Halloween each year. Volunteers keep an eye out for potential troublemakers, providing a great service in support of the efforts of NYS Troopers in keeping drivers safe during the holiday festivities.

Brad Robinson, KE2CZU received recognition as the **RARA New Ham of the Year**, a first-time award for RARA, and inspired by Brad's enthusiasm and support of both the club and our activities, where he has been in regular attendance, and often pitching in to help out! Keep it up, Brad! We appreciate your energy!

A third RARA member was also recognized with an award, but since he was unable to attend the event (hush, hush), his award will be formally presented at an upcoming club meeting! Stay tuned!

The after-dinner program was presented by Daniel Wiles, Director of the Old Erie Canal Heritage Park at Port Byron. Thank you to Dan and his wife Lisa, the coordinator of the Camillus Canal Park, for traveling to Rochester and enlightening us about this NYS treasure.

In 2025 the canal will celebrate its bicentennial. Dan talked with us about the canal's history and 200 years of service to New York State. Some highlights include:

- Did you know that the current canal is the third canal? The first canal was deemed too small upon completion, due to the heavy traffic crowding the waterway before it was even finished.



- While it was originally built to carry products and goods from the Great Lakes region around the globe, it is now primarily recognized as a key element of tourism in NYS.
- The Rochester region is known throughout the canal system as 'getting it,' embracing the canals' tourism gifts in Fairport, Pittsford, Spencerport and more!
- Various events are planned to recognize the canal bicentennial, including the World Canal Conference which will be hosted in Buffalo next fall! Stayed tuned for more announcements on additional events being planned.
- Visit the Old Erie Canal Heritage Park of Port Byron from the NYS Thruway at eastbound mile marker 309, or off Route 31 in Port Byron from May-October. It's free and cool!

Overall, the banquet was a terrific success and provided an opportunity for members to connect with each other and share their passion for amateur radio.

Thank you to all who attended, and to the many, many helping hands who helped pull the event together!



RARA MEMBERSHIP NEWS

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

As I write this in the middle of September, RARA Membership stands at 491, tantalizingly close to 500! That's a healthy membership however by the time you read this, those members who have not yet renewed for the 2024/2025 season will have lapsed and our overall membership will have dropped. Thanks to those who have responded to reminders and renewed before the September 30th deadline! As it stands today there are still 206 members who need to renew.

You can join by clicking [here](#). Please take a moment to go to the [renewal page](#) on our website to check that your membership hasn't lapsed and if it has, renew for next year. Note, if you have enough points to cover your renewal, I have already renewed you through until September 30th 2025 but it is still a good idea to check your membership status. Thanks to all those who have renewed already!!

I'd like to give a warm welcome to our new members:

Chris Casari, K5GTZ
Angela and Mark D'Amico
Kathy Hassett, KF7TPI
Santos Hernandez
Ethan Jestel
Brian Johnston, KE2DSP
Todd Pedersen
Julia Rombaut
Caleb Schreier, KC3VPC

I'd also like to thank Steve Melcher, K2ODO for becoming a new life member of RARA.

Remember to look out for new members at RARA events and make sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club!



GET YOUR RARA MERCH!

Pre-Order during the October meeting and receive your order at the November meeting. Cash, Venmo and PayPal accepted.

Prices may differ from website, see booth at October meeting for details.

New website: <https://www.cafepress.com/shopdetail/rararadio.1124941028>
Contact Yin at kd2yiq@gmail.com





EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

License Classes

Our Technician, General and Amateur Extra classes started in September. If you are willing to put in some extra work, it may not be too late to join our classes, otherwise, we are planning on offering license classes again starting in January.

New Amateur Extra Question Pool

Since July 1st 2024, all Amateur Extra license exams are now using the new question pool, which means that you need the 13th edition of the ARRL License Manual to study for the test. Make sure you have the correct edition.

License Manuals

All current editions of the license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. At this discount, we unfortunately cannot deliver, and you would have to pick up the manual. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

I usually have some license manuals with me at official RARA events (e.g. the monthly meetings).

RARA ACADEMY

Steve Blowers, K2PXT

For information on the next RARA Academy see the article "FLDIGI and the Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System" on page 14.

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ
Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ
Elmers' Corner Coordinators

Our first Elmers' Corner for the 24-25 year went great! We held the zoom session from our campsite at Southwick Beach State Campground – and yes, before you ask, it is a POTA park, US-2142.



It was great to see new faces, and we hope to see more in October. We talked POTA, Antennas, noise reduction, and logging programs. If you have a favorite logging program, please join us to share what program you use and the reasons why you like it!

If you want to join us and talk radio, answer all of those burning questions you have been holding onto, please join us at our next zoom session, October 5th. The meeting starts at 10am on zoom, the link is below, however, if you would like to get on my reminder email list, send me a quick note at elmerscorner@rochesterham.org. I don't send a lot of emails, just one a month reminding you about the zoom meeting, and I always provide the link so you have it in one place.

If you are a new ham, or just getting back into the hobby, we are here to help. We've even helped experienced hams with questions. ALL are welcome!

If you have a lot of questions that may require some background information, you can email your questions to us ahead of the meeting so that we can prepare, elmerscorner@rochesterham.org

ELMERS' CORNER

1st Saturday of the month
September – May

Next Zoom Meetings:

October 5th 10AM-12PM

November 2nd

December 7th

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)

[pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667

Passcode: 786545

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (New York)

+13126266799,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

MORSE CODE TRAINING

Dave Wilson, WA2HOY, RXCWG Coordinator

The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

BEGINNERS MORSE CODE ZOOM CLASSES

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, hosts Morse Code classes on Thursday evenings 7pm.

No experience required. Join the group at any session. Register at:

pfournia@gmail.com

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM AND ON THE AIR

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts Zoom code practice for all levels on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. For On Air schedules contact Tim at tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

RXCWG INTERMEDIATE CW PRACTICE- 7:30pm Thursdays

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkWWVlOjRlYXlhc3pOUT09)

[pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkWWVlOjRlYXlhc3pOUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkWWVlOjRlYXlhc3pOUT09)

W1AW On The Air CW Practice

Meeting ID: 799 6621 2852

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	harryw7872@gmail.com

OCTOBER RAFFLE PRIZES

- RSGB D Star Book
- Helping Hand
- 3M Temflex 2155 Rubber Splicing Tape
- Bongo Ties
- RARA Hat

SEPTEMBER MEETING REVIEW: AGM & PRESENTATION: NASA'S DEEP SPACE NETWORK AND LASER COMMUNICATION RELAY

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

The September meeting included our annual general meeting required by the rules of our 501c(3) status. To conduct that meeting and elect our officers and board for the coming year we required a quorum of 10% of our full or life members. I'm pleased to report that we easily met that requirement, and our board and officers were duly elected. Thanks to everybody who attended and enabled us to get the formalities out of the way efficiently and quickly.

The evening's presentation was from Jim Porter, our local NASA ambassador who you will remember also gave an excellent presentation on the forthcoming solar eclipse earlier this year. His latest presentation was on NASA's ongoing replacement of radio with lasers as a communication tool for receiving the enormous data volumes from spacecraft, especially digital photographs from our telescope satellites. This was a fascinating talk, and attendees were encouraged to visit the NASA website for more information. One page I have found particularly interesting is <https://eyes.nasa.gov/dsn/dsn.html> which indicates in real time which space missions are being monitored by each of the telescopes in the deep space network. Altogether a great evening!



PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Zello PTT: A Versatile Backup Tool for Amateur Radio

Zello PTT has become a popular mobile phone application, offering a reliable and efficient platform for real-time voice communication. While primarily used for personal and professional purposes, Zello can also serve as a valuable backup tool for amateur radio operators. We used this app to a limited degree on Tour de Cure and MS Roc the Ride Great Great Lakes this year.

Key Features for Amateur Radio Use:

- **Push-to-Talk Functionality:** Zello's core feature, push-to-talk (PTT), mirrors the operation of traditional amateur radio transceivers. Simply press and hold the PTT button to transmit your voice.
- **Channel-Based Communication:** Zello organizes users into channels, similar to amateur radio repeaters. You can join various channels based on your interests, location, or specific events.
- **Global Reach:** Zello's network extends worldwide, allowing you to connect with amateur radio enthusiasts from different countries and regions.
- **Text Messaging:** In addition to voice communication, Zello also supports text messaging within channels. This can be useful for sharing information or coordinating activities.

Best Practices for Amateur Radio Use:

- **Backup Battery:** Ensure you have a backup battery or power source to keep your device charged during extended use.
- **Headset:** Using a headset can improve audio quality and reduce background noise.
- **Data Plan:** If using Zello for mobile data, be mindful of your data usage limits.
- **Emergency Procedures:** Establish procedures for using Zello in emergency situations, such as coordinating rescue efforts or providing updates.

Zello can be downloaded to your phone using the Google Play or Apple Apps store. Create a personal account and test your phone using the echo channel. Account event channel credentials will be distributed via a QR code and password on an event ICS 205 form. Jim plans to demonstrate Zello as a tech tip at the October RARA meeting.

For more information, see [Android User Guide](#) or [iOS User Guide](#). By leveraging Zello PTT as a backup tool, amateur radio operators can enhance their communication capabilities and stay connected in various scenarios.

Whether for personal use, emergency response, or club activities, Zello offers a reliable and versatile platform for real-time voice communication. Download the App and apply for a free individual account.

Ham Radio Demonstration at Challenge Trophy Camporee

On October 26, 2024, the Challenge Trophy Camporee at Camp Warren Cutler will feature a special ham radio demonstration. Ham radio operators from RARA will be on hand to explain the basics and show off some of our latest equipment. Ham radio is a popular hobby that allows people to communicate with others worldwide. It is a great way to learn about electronics, radio technology, and Morse code. Ham radio operators can also use their skills to help out during emergencies.

The demonstration will include a variety of activities, such as:

- Demonstration of Digital, Voice and CW modes
- Contrast HF and VHF/UHF operation
- A QSO party where campers can talk to ham radio operators from all over the world
- Presentation of ham radio equipment

We expect 1000 youth and scout leaders to attend, and it is sure to be a fun and educational experience for all ages.

About the Challenge Trophy Camporee

The Challenge Trophy Camporee is a weekend-long camping event for Boy Scouts and their families. It is held at Camp Warren Cutler, a Scout camp in Naples, New York. The camporee features a variety of activities, including hiking, fishing, archery, and shooting sports.

Pumpkin Patrol Road Safety Event Oct 30, 31

Our Pumpkin Patrol event captain, Ed Wilkonski, K1EM is preparing for this year's event. Please see his article elsewhere in this month's Rag.

For more information or to register for this month's events, see our Public Service page at https://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm for more information and to volunteer.

2024 RARA October List of Public Service Events

Event	Location	Day	Date
JOTA / Ham Radio Demonstration - CTC	Camp Cutler, Naples, NY	Saturday	Oct. 26, 2024
Pumpkin Patrol	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Wednesday and Thursday	Oct. 30-31, 2024
Maker Faire	Gordon Field House RIT	Saturday	Nov. 16, 2024
Tour de Cure	TBD	Saturday	Jun. 7, 2025
MS Roc the Ride Great Lakes	Lakeside State Park	Saturday	Aug. 9, 2025
ILLW	Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse	Saturday - Sunday	Aug. 16, 17, 2025
Pumpkin Patrol	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Thursday - Friday	Oct. 30, 31, 2025

ANNUAL AUCTION IN NOVEMBER

BRIAN O'CONNOR, KA2CGB



The **RARA ANNUAL AUCTION** will be held on Wednesday, 6 November.

Take time to look around your Shack, Workbench, Desk, Closet or Garage for that Radio, Antenna, Tuner, Tool, Tester or Accessory that another Ham can put to good use.

Your item will command a higher value if you clean and test it before the auction.

Some basics: The auction is a members-only event (members may bring one guest), so please renew your membership online if you haven't done so already. Our vice president and membership secretary, Tim Barrett, K9VB, will be at the entrance checking membership, and will be able to process new members and renewals if you are unable to do so in advance.

RARA members are welcome to bring three items that may be of interest to a fellow ham. Each item should be clearly labeled with four important pieces of information: (1) your name & call; (2) description; (3) condition (is it working?); and (4) your suggested starting price. The "Auction Item Description" form will be included in the next RAG and will also be available as a PDF for download on the RARA web site.

RARA will be offering donated items including

- HF & V/UHF Transmitters, Receivers and Transceivers
- RF Power Amplifiers
- SWR and Wattmeters
- Antennas and Tuners
- Station Power Supplies
- Laboratory Power Supplies
- Oscilloscopes

I'm expecting lots of Good Stuff to be on offer. More details in next month's RAG.

BSA CAMP CUTLER ANTENNA INSTALLATION

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Attracting Youth Introduction to Amateur Radio

Ham radio, a hobby that combines technology, communication, and community, can be a thrilling and educational experience for young people. Setting up a ham radio station at a Boy Scout camp can be a great way to introduce youth to this fascinating hobby and inspire them to explore the world of wireless communication.

Why Set Up a Ham Radio Station at Camp?

- **Skill Development:** Ham radio can help young people develop valuable skills such as electronics, troubleshooting, and communication.
- **Community Building:** Participating in ham radio activities can foster a sense of community and belonging among campers.
- **Educational Opportunities:** Ham radio can provide opportunities for learning about technology, physics, and geography.
- **Fun and Excitement:** Operating a ham radio can be a fun and exciting way for campers to connect with people from all over the world.



2023 JOTA at Camp Cutler

Building on a History of Ham Radio Youth Events

RARA, in partnership with area clubs, has a history of introducing youth to Amateur Radio.

- We have operated demonstration stations at Camp Babcock Hovey in Ovid (now closed) and Camp Cutler in Naples for Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) and Challenge Trophy Camporee (CTC).
- For various troop and district camporees and klondike derbys, we have set up demonstration stations in Mendon Ponds Park and Braddocks Bay parks
- We have offered Radio Merit Badge classes for local scout troops, group sessions at the Scout Service Center and local churches, and Merit Badge University sessions at RIT.
- RARA members are available as registered Merit Badge Counselors for individual pursuit of the Radio Merit Badge.

Establishing a Permanent Station

- Mark Pedersen, KC2UES, with the assistance of other RARA members, determined that our efforts would be significantly helped by the installation of permanent antennas at Camp Cutler, which would facilitate the setup of a demonstration station using RARA-owned or member radios.
- RARA would be able to demonstrate ham radio to Scouts who attend summer camp and special camps such as the Championship Trophy Camporee, Eagle Flight, National Youth Leadership Training, Jamboree on the Air, and others.
- Mark has obtained the approval to install the antennas from the BSA Facilities Committee and Senecas Waterways Scout Executive.
- Mark submitted an Educational Grant Application to the RARA BOD that included a bill of materials for an HF wire antenna and a mag mount VHF/UHF antenna for the steel roof of the Camp Cutler Nature Lodge, totaling \$1350. The bill of materials included an antenna feedline, building entrance, and grounding hardware.
- RARA approved the grant application at its July board meeting and added that it will purchase the items using existing purchasing relationships.
- Radio demonstrations are anticipated to increase in frequency as volunteers become more easily connected to the antennas.

Activities and Projects

- **Initial Station Operation:** Initially, the station would be operated by RARA members or other licensed amateurs bringing radios to camp and connecting them to the antennas.
- **Contacting Other Stations:** Encourage campers to contact other ham radio operators around the world. This can be a great way to learn about different cultures and make new friends.
- **Contests and Events:** Participate in ham radio contests and events, such as JOTA and DX contests. These events can be fun and provide opportunities to test your skills.
- **Building Antennas:** Teach campers how to build their own antennas. This is a great way to learn about electronics and antenna theory.
- **Morse Code:** Introduce campers to Morse code and teach them how to send and receive messages using this classic method of communication.
- **Increase the Number of Ham Youth:** RARA hopes that campers who are introduced to Ham Radio through the station equipment provided by this grant will be inspired to attend our license classes, obtain an Amateur Radio License, and join us in pursuing our hobby.

By setting up a ham radio station at Scout Camp Cutler, we can provide a valuable and exciting learning experience for young people. Ham radio is a hobby that can benefit them in many ways, from developing technical skills to fostering a sense of community.

PUMPKIN PATROL OCTOBER 30/31

EDWARD WILKONSKI, COORDINATOR

Fellow RARA Community, by the time you read this there will be 35 days until Halloween Eve. RARA has had wonderful participation for over 30 years and it would be a shame to let (the NYS Police and the NYS Thruway driving public) them down.

I have 9 volunteers who committed to the cause and I need another 9 to fill the roster. Please consider volunteering for four hours on one or both nights.

[Sign Up](#) on our Website or email Edward Wilkonski at fn13gg@gmail.com.

AMATEUR RADIO ASTRONOMY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MARTY PEPE

This is just a quick reminder that last month's Rag carried an article about creating a special interest group for Amateur Radio Astronomy. This came from one of our members, Marty Pepe who is an active astronomer and teaches engineering at RIT.

If you think you're interested in being part of this new ARA Special Interest Group, just drop Marty an email at mjpastro@gmail.com with [ARA SIG in the title) and your name, email, call sign, cell number and club.

If you would like to take another look at the article first, the September RAG can be found [here](#).



FLDIGI AND THE NARROW BAND EMERGENCY MESSAGING SYSTEM

PAUL CONAWAY KD2DO

Most of you have heard of Fldigi. And if you have listened to the digital portion of the bands, most of what you hear other than CW, Winlink and FT-8, is Fldigi. You have heard the many different sounds, and if you have a waterfall display on your radio you have seen the many different looks of these strange signals.

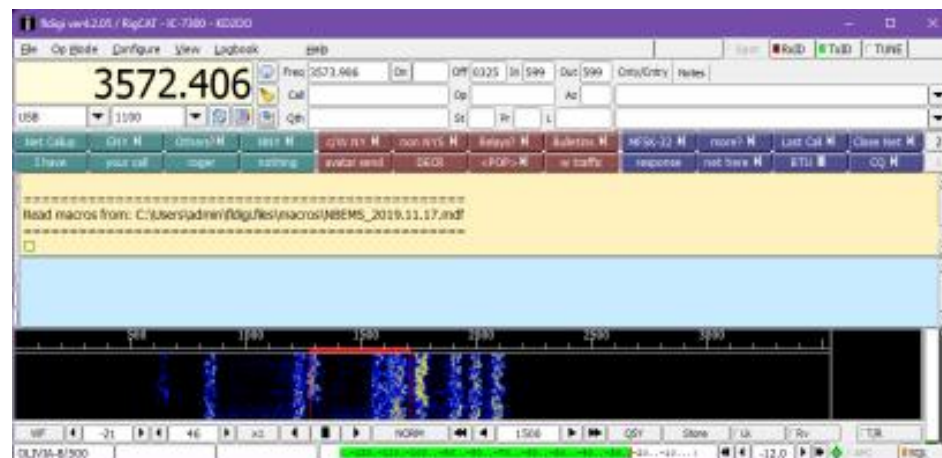
We call these the operational modes or just *modes* for short. The Military calls them waveforms because they just look different. There are only about a score of basic modes, but each one of these has several variations in speed and bandwidth. All told there are over 100 combinations to choose from.

Why so many? Where did they come from? What are they good for? Some brief history: From the end of WWII to the early 80's radioteletype, better known as RTTY was the only digital mode available to Amateurs. Then in 1983 AMTOR made its debut and, with the rising popularity of the personal computers it became the first amateur digital mode to offer error free text transmission. Packet radio emerged in the Mid 80's. Then in the late 90's a new invention harnessed personal computer technology to create a new mode for casual operating: PSK31

Up until this time most of the coding and decoding was done using special hardware called a terminal node controller or TNC. The computer played its roll as a simple dumb terminal. Peter Martinez, G3PLX, was the first to exploit the potential of the *sound card* when he invented PSK31.

Over the years people have invented new modes to work well with NVIS paths or with low signal to noise ratios or to have built in error correction. For HF work they all had to live with the restriction of 300 baud. This has now been removed in favour of simple bandwidth limitations. But before that, some people said that with one carrier, I can send my 300 baud, but there is no restriction on only having one carrier, so some modes were developed that used multiple carriers. Some used 5, 10 even up to 32 carriers, each at 300 baud.

Some modes, though they are good for passing messages error free, have a very long time between overs and thus are not good for keyboard-to-keyboard chats. Some modes are so good at low signal level operation they can operate well below the noise floor and you cannot see or hear them. Some modes are made for use in FM where the whole audio bandwidth is available and blindingly fast speeds are routine.



The Fldigi front panel so busy, so complicated I will never understand it. Just look at all those buttons and fields and menus.

This is why we are putting on a RARA Academy class on Fldigi. To address all of these concerns get you comfortable with it.

The first class will be in November. By the end of this class you will know enough about how to operate Fldigi to be having multiple simultaneous keyboard-to-keyboard conversations (QSOs) with others in the class. To make this work, we ask that you install the software on your laptop computer, and do some simple configuration of the audio. Bring your computer with you because this is a very hands-on class with learn by doing exercises. Please contact Steve Blowers at academy@rochesterham.org to register for the class. In return, he will send you details on installing the software and instructions for setting up windows audio.

The second class will be in December, continuing on from where we left off. You will get a chance to use a variety of modes. You will learn how to pass messages and standard forms using FLMSG. We will cover procedures and some netiquette. This session will culminate with an actual net with message passing.

RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 JS8 Group 14.078 MHz, 9pm Phone Weekly Test	2 RARA Monthly Mtg BSA & ONLINE 7pm ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 UKEICC 80m Contest Walk for the Bacon QRP	3 RARA BoD Mtg 6:30pm ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC FT4 Sprint SKCC Sprint (Europe) Weekly RTTY Test German Telegraphy Contest	4 K1USN Speed Test	5 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p Collegiate QSO Party Oceania DX Contest , Phone TRC DX Contest CA, SKCC QSO Party UBA ON Contest, CW Provinces of China DX Contest 902 MHz and Up Fall Sprint IARU Region 1 UHF Contest
6 Peanut Power QRP Sprint Collegiate QSO Party Oceania DX Contest , Phone TRC DX Contest CA, SKCC QSO Party UBA ON Contest, CW Provinces of China DX Contest 902 MHz and Up Fall Sprint IARU Region 1 UHF Contest	7 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	8 JS8 Group 14.078 MHz, 9pm Phone Weekly Test	9 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	10 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint 10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	11 K1USN Speed Test	12 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p Makrothen RTTY Contest NV,AZ, PA, SD QSO Parties Oceania DX Contest, CW Scandinavian QSO Party Argentina 7MHz Contest PODXS 070 Club 160m Sprint
13 Classic Exchange, Phone Makrothen RTTY Contest NV,AZ, PA, SD QSO Parties Oceania DX Contest, CW Scandinavian QSO Party PODXS 070 Club 160m Sprint	14 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest Classic Exchange, Phone	15 JS8 Group 14.078 MHz, 9pm Phone Weekly Test Classic Exchange, Phone	16 -ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data Walk for the Bacon QRP	17 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	18 K1USN Speed Test JOTA-JOTI 2024	19 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p JOTA-JOTI 2024 NY QSO Party ARRL EME Contest YBDXPI FT8 Contest JARTS WW RTTY Contest YLRL DX/NA YL Anniv Contest Stew Perry Top Band Challenge
20 JOTA-JOTI 2024 ARRL EME Contest YBDXPI FT8 Contest JARTS WW RTTY Contest YLRL DX/NA YL Anniv Contest Stew Perry Top Band Challenge 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	21 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ARRL School Roundup ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest Run for the Bacon QRP Contes	22 JS8 Group 14.078 MHz, 9pm ARRL School Roundup Phone Weekly Test	23 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	24 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB ARRL School Roundup NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	25 K1USN Speed Test ARRL School Roundup	26 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p CQ WW DX Contest, SSB Ham Spirit Contest, CW
7 CQ WW DX Contest, SSB	28 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest QCX Challenge	29 JS8 Group 14.078 MHz, 9pm Phone Weekly Test	30 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 UKEICC 80m Contest	31 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC FT4 Sprint Weekly RTTY Test NCCC Sprint		

VE TEAM

Testing takes place on the 3rd Saturday September - April

Testing Location RIT

Sat Oct 19, 2024 / Sat Nov 16, 2024:

Max Lowenthal Hall (012) - LOW-3225 Classroom (GP)

Pre-registration is required visit:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson> to find the latest session.

More information is available on the RARA website:

https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

Applicants must supply their own pen, pencil, calculator

Testing begins at 10:00AM.

Also Note: The exam is free however the FCC now charges \$35 for applications. This fee is NOT paid to the VE team. It is paid directly to the FCC. You will receive an email from the FCC when your application is processed. We will also have an information sheet available

Exam Results for September 2024

APP TYPE	EXISTING CALL	NAME	CLASS	NEW CALL
New		Tobias V Flowers	Tech	Offlined
Modify	KC2LNK	Andrew P Sacco	General	KC2LNK
Modify	KD2SWG	Eugene T Taylor	General	KD2SWG

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES News

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. The meeting in November is on the third Thursday to avoid interfering with Thanksgiving. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The meetings are in person at 6:00 PM at the county EOC in even months and at the Red Cross in odd months. They are also available via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the W2ARM 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC. On nights when we hold our regular meeting, the net is at 5:30 PM.

Web: www.monroecountyemcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESNY

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website www.rdxa.com for up-to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.



XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club meets the second Thursday of the month (except July and August). 7PM at the Webster Recreation Center. Zoom meeting info, when available, is sent out to our mailing list. How to subscribe and up-to-date information is always on our website at <http://xarc.us>. We have a System Fusion repeater south of the city on 145.290, and another on 444.825 west of the city that is also D-Star capable. Both are also analog capable with 110.9Hz tone. All are welcome.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung County and the surrounding counties in New York and Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings, which begin at 7 p.m. All monthly meetings are held both in person and on Zoom.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters, both with a PL of 123.0. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters in the Twin Tiers area can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our 6-meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. We welcome participation from RARA members.

Tickets for our Elmira hamfest on September 28, 2024 can now be obtained online at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/hamfest.php or from ARAST members for \$6.00.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refreshers period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Rikki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

Our meetings are always the 2nd Wednesday. Dish to pass meal at 6pm with meeting at 7pm. All are welcome.

Don't forget our daily Monday thru Friday 75 meter HF net. Check in at 7:45am starts 8:00 am on 3.896. Always a great way to start your day.

73, Belinda KD2BPJ

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two-meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to
join us on-line &
on-the-air! We're
here to help you to
use the license that
you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our
website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message
to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.205 USB

No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink ka2ene-L #23426

We can help to answer the question, "What radio
should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those
with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands,
giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research
each one to see which serves you best. Ask
questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models,
but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and
70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and
the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports
unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely
and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication.
These are good all-around radios no matter what
club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club and meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 9th. There will be VE testing in September.

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate.

73's
Steve Benton
WB2VMR
Ontario County RACES
Radio Officer
ARES Emergency Coordinator

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The current club officers are Bob Odell, N2BZX - President, Bob Shewell, N2HJD - Vice President, Jay Stewart, W4JPS - Secretary, and Jerry Powell, KC2YSY - Treasurer / Membership Chairman. RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site using PayPal. www.k2rra.org

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

20 Years Ago – September 2004

This first issue of the 2004/2005 RARA Rag publishing season started in the usual fashion with the announcement of the program for the next meeting. So off we go... Speaking with great authority on the subject of DX'ing was Mr. Chris Shalvoy K2CS. Chris' DX accomplishments are many, but he has achieved well deserved awards using both HF and VHF bands and various modes as well. He and several of his contesting team members have earned several contest awards from his W2CCC contest station in Herkimer County. These accomplishments were well recognized and heavily taken into account with his appointment to the Head of the ARRL's DX Advisory Committee. At the time of this writing Chris is President of the Rochester DX Association. It is no wonder that he was eagerly tagged by RARA to be their kickoff speaker for the season. Meetings at this time were held at the Henrietta Fire Hall with a 7:30 p.m. start time.

RARA President Brad Armstrong W1YX, wrote the first of what would become a monthly article titled "Prez Sez...." Therein Brad would chronicle current ham radio related happenings within RARA and the Rochester area in general. This issue found topics including the very successful Rochester Hamfest in June, the Ellison Park RARA Summer picnic, and a RARA initiative to supply Amateur Radio Books to the Webster Library.

It was good to see another article by George Masny KA2GPJ, who not only is the current RARA Treasurer, but he is also noted for his feature news articles popping up periodically in these pages. This time George wrote on the recently made available "RARA e-mail Reflector." What features are employed and how to set up your own messaging format using the Sign up Instructions on the RARA Web Site.

Ray Pickens (sk) WA2MYG, your RARA Licensing Class Director, wrote to inform readers on plans for the first semester, 2004/2005 Licensing classes, held September 20 through December 13, 2004, at the usual RIT building 78 location. To show the detail of the teams planning, they also announced the classes licensing tests are already scheduled for December 18. Ray continued with results of the most recent class work where they produced 12 upgrades, 9 new licensees and 5 added element 1 (CW) status.

At this time RARA's Public Service coordinator was Keith Freeberg (sk) N2BEL, who wrote a monthly column he called "Public Service Requests." RARA has for many decades dedicated its services to the need for communications by many charitable organizations. This year is already very busy with requests for communications assistance by these activities: Alzheimer's Walk, Walk for Diabetes, the Ginna Nuclear Evacuation Exercise, Pumpkin Patrol and the 8th Annual Bike Ride Across NY. Keith urged all RARA members to become involved with this activity, which is good training and an important part of why Amateur Radio even exists today.

"Local Ham Wins International Awards" was the heading authored by an article written by the Antique Wireless Association of nearby Bloomfield, NY. There it was written that the AWA awarded their *Houck Award* to Edward M. Gable, K2MP, of Hilton, NY. This award recognizes an individual who was involved with preserving the history of communications. Then, Mr. Gable was stunned to be called to the podium again to receive yet another prestigious award, the *J.P. Taylor Award*, which is given only when a significant accomplishment is made in the field of television history. In 2003, our local RARA member worked to recreate the work of England's John Logie Baird to build and demonstrate the successful 1928 transmission of mechanical television signals across the Atlantic. Most significantly, Mr. Malcom Baird, the son of John Logie Baird, travelled to the convention for the specific purpose of awarding this significant recognition to Mr. Gable.

"ARES members in first CERT class offered by Monroe County," was the headline published by Judy Stonehill N2KXS, of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Let's define CERT. This formal training program certifies individuals in emergency safety response and was administered by Homeland Security Management. This was the first such class offered in Monroe County and nine local ARES hams successfully completed the course: Dean K2ULB, Angela KC2JPI, Chuck KC2IQV, Mike KC2BTW, Peter W2SKY, Bill WB2SXY, Greg KC2GXV, Judy N2KXS and Ed W2KVZ.

A new activity formed within RARA starting this year was that of Public Relations, headed by Larry Wallnau W2ZEY. Larry, and his still developing team, are charged with enhancing the public knowledge of RARA and their public service work. Larry's team formulated what they called a concise statement describing RARA's activities and have already started to distribute that document within the community. That document is printed in this reported issue of the Rag and is worth reading today.

Organizations already involved with RARA's Public Relations include: WORK-TV13, the Genesee Valley Penny Saver, ARRL's QST Magazine and The Webster Public Library. See more about Webster Library and RARA, below.

Through the efforts of RARA member Don Dunn AB2NM, the ARRL's Book Set donation program, and with the support and approval of RARA's Board of Directors, a set of 16 ARRL publications was ordered and delivered to the Webster Public Library for their public loan activity. The book set included those describing what ham radio is, License requirements, a call sign map and learning Morse Code. A large photo of Webster Library officials receiving the donation was in this issue of the Rag.

The Silent Key list is longer than normal due to the summer months of no Rag. With regret it was reported that Ray Santirocco, Ph.D KE2LN, John Carpenter Sr. WA2JBT, Robert Caswell KC2JXO, Duane Hinkel KB2KWO, Cheryl Eckert KB2CIB, Leland Thayer KA2ZYF and Ruth Harnaart N2MXN were reported as Silent Keys. From the Want Ads you could buy a Kenwood TS-520 HF transceiver, with CW filter, from Irv Goodman AF2K, for \$275.00. "Need a Lawyer, just call" was the headline in the commercial advertisement of Attorney Sherwood M. Snyder (sk) W2KFU.



the **RARA RAG**

Published by

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 57

SEPTEMBER 2004

NO.1

DX-ing

Featured presenter for the 2004-05 season opening meeting will be Mr. Chris Shalvoy, K2CS. First licensed as N2PEB in 1991, Chris has worked and confirmed a total of 320 DX entities thus far and is currently just 2 countries short of achieving 5-Band DXCC, in addition to just recently having snared his 50th state for WAS on 50 MHz. This avid DX'er is a past-President of Rochester DX Association, is an active operator with the Sweepstakes contest team at K2NNY, and hands out FN23 to VHF-ers from his get-away QTH site in Herkimer County. Additionally, Chris is ARRL Atlantic Division DXAC Advisory Committee representative since 2002.

An enjoyable evening of HF and VHF DX-ing enlightenment is guaranteed. You will leave with some good pointers, including how to snare that elusive rare one. See you September 3rd.

**RaRa
MEETING
September 3, 2004
(NOTE THE NEW
MEETING START TIME)
7:30PM
HENRIETTA FIRE HALL
3129 E. HENRIETTA RD.
DX-ing
Presented by
Chris Shalvoy, K2CS**

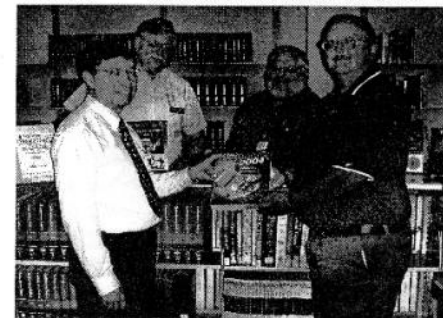
BOOKS DONATED to PUBLIC LIBRARY

Don Dunn AB2NM

During their July meeting, the RaRa Board of Directors approved the purchase and donation of an ARRL Book set to the Webster Public Library. The Board made the decision to donate the book set in order to enhance and improve the quantity and quality of up-to-date materials concerning the Amateur Radio Service, and make this information readily available to patrons throughout the Monroe County Library System (MCLS). The material was donated on Monday evening 19 July 2004 and received by Mr. Marvin Andrews, Director of the Webster Public Library. Photographs of the donation can be seen at the RaRa website: www.rochesterham.org

The ARRL Book set consists of 16 books, a world map, and audio CD set for Morse Code instruction. The complete set of materials can be seen at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/libbookset.html>. The cost of the set is \$200 and included shipping. Bookplates will be placed in or on the donated materials by the Webster Public Library staff. The bookplates will credit members of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association for the donation, and list RaRa's website and information line phone number.

CONTINUED DONATION PAGE 6



RaRa RAG 1

In this issue Program Chairman Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, reported that the first program of the season would feature a presentation by Dave Hayes, an Engineer with Harris/RF Communications Mobile Telephone Division. Dave gave the audience a lesson on new technology including the newest buzz-word, *Cellular Telephone*. Remember that, I might be important someday! The meetings at that time were held at the 40/8 Club on University Avenue, across the street from Gleason Works.

The first meeting of the season is always associated with the payment of Dues looming in the near future. No fear, your needs were effectively handled by Membership Chairman Lloyd Caves WB2EFU (N2PU) who happily took you money in person at a meeting or via the mail. Sorry, no bit-coin or PayPal, yet. However, many of you are ahead of the game as there have been 829 paid members to date. The work of attracting members go on as of this issue some 1700 of you, defined as amateurs (not members) in the 144-145 and 146 zip code areas, have received 3rd class direct mailings urging new membership or renewal. Now that's some behind the scenes work!

Serving you, the membership, are this year's officers: President Ray Roberts WA2SSU, V-P Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, with John Lloyd KA2KFV and John Van Griethuysen N2BNE, as Secretary and Treasurer. President Ray Roberts affirmed the following Staff positions: Awards N2CUN, Computer Committee N2DPF, Public Relation N2BXA, Rag Editor K2RJ and Exams K2NC. The ever-busy Ed Holdsworth N2EH, had Public Service, Licensing, Club Station and Hamfest on his plate. This month Ed Holdsworth wrote an informative piece, with two full pages of photos, on the progress of building K2JD, the RARA club station, featuring the Drake TR-7, SB-220 Linear and VHF/UHF multi-mode radios. A monthly Board Meeting activity report was generated for the first time by Secretary John Lloyd KA2KFV. John's intent is to publish this report monthly in the Rag.

RARA's Volunteer Testing Team, guided by John Schooley (sk) K2NC, was especially busy with the opening of Volunteer examiners and the authorization of remote testing by the FCC. This was a huge departure from in-office testing before a FCC examiner. In our case of the Rochester area, we had to drive to buffalo (or have our Dad take us as was often the case) to upgrade or take new exams for General class and higher exams. All that is over now as approved testing sites such as those offered by RARA are popping up all over the country. Easy for us to say but the early approved test people had to pass tests to be authorized as well as give up their time to attend strict testing schedules. For those of you who passed a licensing exam without having to drive to Buffalo, did you ever remember to say "thank you" to your friend and RARA member who made it possible as you left the examination hall or Hamfest testing site?

Before the days of Packet Radio and BBS systems there was MSO, or Message Storage Operation. You could leave a message for others to be retrieved at a later time, in our area, by contacting Rich, WB2VPH, in Brockport, on 144.920 Mhz RTTY, and leaving a message in a pre-arranged format. Worked mostly, despite lack of computing power on the systems Commodore 64 computer.

There were no Silent Keys listed in this issue. From the Want Ads you could purchase an ICOM model 211 Multi-mode 2 meter Transceiver for \$250.00 from Roger Palowski WB2GVB. New Ham, need a call sign badge? Easy, contact RARA's own K2JD Engraving and have a custom made per the instructions in the Commercial advertising page.



the RARA RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. 37

SEPTEMBER 1984

NO. 1

RaRa MEETS SEPTEMBER 7th PROGRAM ON CELLULAR RADIO

The first meeting of the 1984-85 season will take place Friday, September 7th, 8 p.m., at the 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue across from Gleason Works. This is the time to visit with Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU, our membership chairman and get your dues up-to-date for this season.

Our program this month will be a presentation on Cellular Radio by Dave Hayes, an engineer with Harris-RF Communications Mobile Telephone Division here in Rochester. Dave has been highly involved with the installation of a test-bed cellular system in Rochester and will explain the reasons for all the excitement generated across the country for this new mobile telephone system.

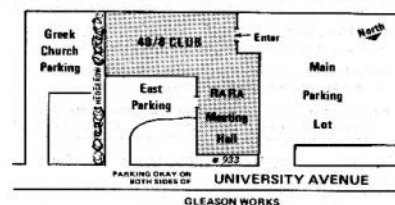
In addition to the program, there will be our usual awards presentations and excellent refreshments. Come join your friends for this first social event of the season and get up-to-date on all the latest happenings!

WELCOME TO RaRa

If you've received this issue of the *RaRa RAG* by third class mail, it means that you are one of the 1700+ amateur radio operators in the RaRa service area (144-145-146 zip codes) who are not a member and we cordially invite you to join the largest ARRL-affiliated Special Service Club in the country.

RaRa is dedicated to providing the maximum amount of services to the Amateur community as well as the community at large. We provide communications for a multitude of public service events, sponsor licensing and upgrade classes and can now offer regularly scheduled Amateur Radio examinations for all classes of licenses. We conduct the largest Hamfest east of Dayton and print a directory of all Hams in the Rochester area.

For only \$7 you get all this plus a subscription to the *RAG*. Why not join us? We'd love to have you! A membership application is included for your convenience.



40/8 PARKING

INSIDE:

- September Calendar
- "While You Were Away" ... and Much More!

RaRa BEGINS VOLUNTEER TESTING

Since all of the exam questions have now been released, we are now ready to get underway on a regular program of examinations in the Rochester area. We have established three firm dates on Saturday spaced about 30 days apart, and plan to continue on a monthly basis throughout the year. Our firm exam dates are September 22, November 3, and December 8, 1984.

The examinations will be held at the Monroe County Social Services Building located at 111 Westfall Road within sight of the Route 15 exit on Interstate 390. Examinations for Technician through Extra Class will be given as follows:

20 wpm code (Extra)	9:00 a.m.
13 wpm code (General)	9:45 a.m.
Written exams only	10:30 a.m.

Novice class examinations will not be given since they are readily available from any amateur in the area.

The contact person for exams will be John Schooley, K2NC, 329 Fiesta Road, Rochester, New York 14626, telephone 716-225-3626. No prior appointment will be required to take an examination.

As the program gets underway we will establish a continuing sequence of dates for 1985.

RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

OFFICERS

President: Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ	(585) 766-5631	president@rochesterham.org	Treasurer Brian O'Connor, KA2CGB	(585) 721-2346	treasurer@rochesterham.org
Vice-President: Tim Barrett, K9VB	(646)496-5015	vicepresident@rochesterham.org	Secretary: Mike Moore, KC2NM	(585) 721-0011	secretary@rochesterham.org

DIRECTORS

Scott Theis, W2LW	(845) 774-9809	scottw2lw@gmail.com	Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	(585) 210-0840	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Guyot, KB1POP	(585) 406-3163	timguyot@gmail.com	Dave Wilson, WA2HOY	(585) 200-4447	davidrw@rochester.rr.com
Mike Kennerknecht, N2MAK	(585) 754-2444	makennerknecht@gmail.com	George Adams, K4GWA		k4gwa@monroecountymemcomm.org
Steve Blowers, K2PXT	(585) 520-0465	sblowers2@hotmail.com			

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Club Historian	Ed Gable, K2MP	egable@rochester.rr.com	Online Meetings	Scott Theis, W2LW	sa_theis@hotmail.com
Club Station Trustee	Dave Enright, K3WHD	denright1228@gmail.com	Public Service	Mike Moore, KC2NM	publicservice@rochesterham.org
Education Coordinator	Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	education@rochesterham.org	QSL MANAGER	Dave Enright, K3WHD	denright1228@gmail.com
Elmers' Corner	Richard Bishopp, KD2UBJ Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ	elmerscorner@rochesterham.org	Raffle Administrators	Forest Shick, WA2MZG Jeff Sonstein, WA2RRB	wa2mzg@arrl.net
Groups.io Moderators	Tim Barrett, K9VB Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK	tim.k9vb@gmail.com k5khk@khk.net	RARA Academy	STEVE BLOWERS, K2PXT	academy@rochesterham.org
Hamfest Co-Producers	Tim Guyot, KB1POP Mike Moore, KC2NM	hfproducer@rochesterham.org	RARA RAG Editor Proofreaders	Paul Goldman, WA2TAX Susan Aiello, W2SBA Dave Wilson, WA2HOY Mark Pedersen, KC2UES	editor@rochesterham.org Scott Theis, W2LW
License Testing Coordinator	Don Kiser, AC2EV	dkiser100@gmail.com	Refreshments	Rich Hoffarth, K2AXP	rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Media Communications	Tim Guyot, KB1POP	timguyot@gmail.com	Reward Points Administrator	Tim Barrett, K9VB	membership@rochesterham.org
Meeting Audio	Joe DiVincenzo, AD2DB Scott Czeck, KC1GHT	joedy58@gmail.com scottczeck@gmail.com	Telephone Hotline	Scott Theis, W2LW	sa_theis@hotmail.com
Membership Secretary	Tim Barrett, K9VB	membership@rochesterham.org	Webmaster	Scott Theis, W2LW	webmaster@rochesterham.org

ROCHESTER AREA RADIO CLUB CONTACTS

Amateur Radio Association of the Southern Tier (ARAST)

Reiner Dieg, N2PEZ: n2pez@arrl.net

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN: lynnbisha@gmail.com

Astronomy Section Rochester Academy of Science

Mark Minarich: mminaric@rochester.rr.com

Community Amateur Radio Club (CARC)

Joe Gangi, AC2NB: ac2nb.carc@gmail.com

Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP)

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL: ka1njl@arrl.net

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

drumlinsarc@gmail.com

Livingston Co Amateur Radio Emergency Services (LCARES)

Bill Boyd, K2DSP: k2dsp@lafireline.net

Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association (KLARA)

Jim Caneen, W2JTC: jcpilot@localnet.com

Monroe County ARES / RACES

Erin Platteter,: secretary@monroecountymcomm.org

Orleans County Amateur Radio Club (OCARC)

Terry Cook, K2EYS: k2eys@ocarc.us

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA)

Scott Theis, W2LW: president@rochesterham.org

ROC City Net

Joe Merolillo, K2ZX: k2zx52@gmail.com

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS: cshalvoy@att.net

Rochester Institute of Technology ARC

Jim Stefano, W2COP: wireless@mail.rit.edu

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Bob Shewell, N2HJD: bshewell@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

Jarred Jackson, KF2MR: chairman@rvhfg.org

Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton, WB2VMR: sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

XRX Amateur Radio Club

Brian Donovan, K2AS: k2as@outlook.com

Rochester Makerspace

David Duckles: rocmakers@gmail.com

NOVEMBER RAG DEADLINE

OCTOBER 15, 2024

**RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

JOIN US IN PERSON

OR

ONLINE AT:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4338848147522528601>

CONTACT WEBMASTER@ROCHESTERHAM.ORG FOR SUPPORT

Rochester Area Repeater Listing

THE RARA RAG

Published by

Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY, 14692-8333

Hotline – (585) 210- 8910

Website – <http://www.rochesterham.org>